

5/013/004

From: Paul Baker
To: comments-intermtn-ashley@fs.fed.us
Date: 8/4/04 8:24AM
Subject: Honeycomb Calcite Project

I am responding to your request for comments on the referenced project. On April 17, 2003, the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining sent a letter (attached to this e mail) to George Weldon about this project, and we have not heard whether the issues mentioned in the letter have been addressed.

1. Is the plan still marked as confidential?
2. Has the plan been signed by an authorized representative of the operator?
3. Has the legal description been corrected to include the base and meridian?
4. Is an Air Quality Approval Order required? The issue of air quality was addressed in the EA, but we do not know whether the operator is required to obtain an Approval Order.
5. The EA indicates SHPO gave its clearance for the project, so the 5th question in the letter has apparently been addressed.

We have considered the Forest Service as the lead on this project, but according to the agreement between DOGM and the Forest Service, DOGM should receive a copy of the plan when it is updated. Has there been an update since we received the last copy of the plan April 10, 2003?

One additional issue: DOGM now requires bonding for reclamation on all mining and exploration projects. Is the Forest Service planning to hold a bond for this site. If so, we would like to coordinate with you in calculating the bond.

Thank you for your consideration of these issues.

Paul Baker, Reclamation Biologist